

**MEDICAL SERVICES PERFORMABLE  
SPECIFIC LANGUAGE OF PROPOSED CHANGES**

Amend Section 1399.541 to read as follows:

**1399.541. Medical Services Performable.**

Because physician assistant practice is directed by a supervising physician, and a physician assistant acts as an agent for that physician, the orders given and tasks performed by a physician assistant shall be considered the same as if they had been given and performed by the supervising physician. Unless otherwise specified in these regulations or in the delegation or protocols, these orders may be initiated without the prior patient specific order of the supervising physician. In any setting, including for example, any licensed health facility, out-patient settings, patients' residences, residential facilities, and hospices, as applicable, a physician assistant may, pursuant to a delegation and protocols where present:

(a) Take a patient history; perform a physical examination and make an assessment and diagnosis therefrom; initiate, review and revise treatment and therapy plans including plans for those services described in Section 1399.541(b) through Section 1399.541(i) inclusive; and record and present pertinent data in a manner meaningful to the physician.

(b) Order or transmit an order for x-ray, other studies, therapeutic diets, physical therapy, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, and nursing services.

(c) Order, transmit an order for, perform, or assist in the performance of laboratory procedures, screening procedures and therapeutic procedures.

(d) Recognize and evaluate situations which call for immediate attention of a physician and institute, when necessary, treatment procedures essential for the life of the patient.

(e) Instruct and counsel patients regarding matters pertaining to their physical and mental health. Counseling may include topics such as medications, diets, social habits, family planning, normal growth and development, aging, and understanding of and long-term management of their diseases.

(f) Initiate arrangements for admissions, complete forms and charts pertinent to the patient's medical record, and provide services to patients requiring continuing care, including patients at home.

(g) Initiate and facilitate the referral of patients to the appropriate health facilities, agencies, and resources of the community.

(h) Administer or provide medication to a patient, ~~or transmit orally, or issue or transmit drug orders orally or in writing in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (a)-(f), inclusive, of Section 3502.1 of the Code.~~ writing on a patient's record, a prescription from his or her supervising physician to a person who may lawfully furnish such medication or medical device. The supervising physician's prescription, transmitted by the physician assistant, for any patient cared for by the physician assistant, shall be based either on a patient-specific order by the supervising physician or on written protocol which specifies all criteria for the use of a specific drug or device and any contraindications for the selection. A physician assistant shall not provide a drug or transmit a prescription for a drug other than that drug specified in the protocol, without a patient-specific

~~order from a supervising physician. At the direction and under the supervision of a physician supervisor, a physician assistant may hand to a patient of the supervising physician a properly labeled prescription drug prepackaged by a physician, a manufacturer, as defined in the Pharmacy Law, or a pharmacist. In any case, the medical record of any patient cared for by the physician assistant for whom the physician's Schedule II prescription has been transmitted or carried out shall be reviewed and countersigned and dated by a supervising physician within seven (7) days. A physician assistant may not administer, provide or transmit a prescription for controlled substances in Schedules II through V inclusive without patient-specific authority by a supervising physician.~~

(i) (1) Perform surgical procedures without the personal presence of the supervising physician which are customarily performed under local anesthesia. Prior to delegating any such surgical procedures, the supervising physician shall review documentation which indicates that the physician assistant is trained to perform the surgical procedures. All other surgical procedures requiring other forms of anesthesia may be performed by a physician assistant only in the personal presence of an approved supervising physician.

(2) A physician assistant may also act as first or second assistant in surgery under the supervision of an approved supervising physician.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 2018, 3502 and 3510, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 2058 and 3502, Business and Professions Code.